# SSC Geopositional Assessment of an AWiFS Image Orthorectified Product

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Civil Commercial Imagery Evaluation Workshop
Fairfax, VA, USA
MAR 21, 2007

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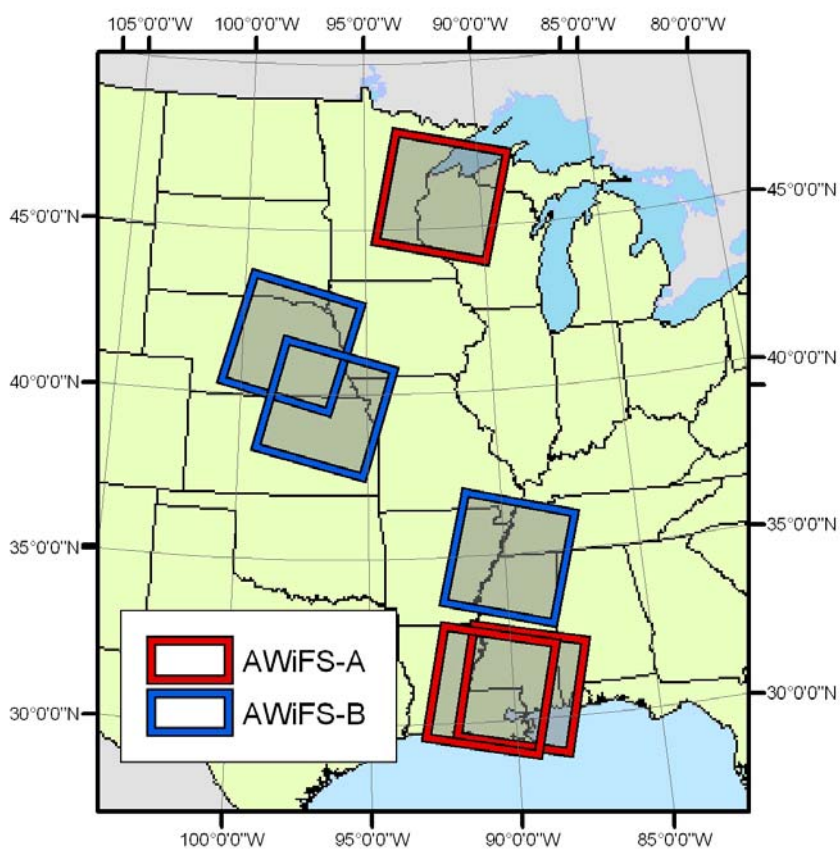
# Overview

- OBJECTIVE: Characterize the geopositional accuracy of the AWiFS orthorectified product offered by GeoEye
- Assessed 6 sub-scenes (Quads), 3 from each AWiFS camera
- Manually matched check points to DOQQ reference (assumed accuracy ~12 m, $CE_{90}$)
- Check points were selected to meet or exceed FGDC NSSDA (National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy) guidelines
- Used ArcGIS for data collection and SSC-written Matlab scripts for data analysis

# Characterized Scenes

## Distribution of Scenes




| Acquisition | Camera |
|---|---|
| 279-48-C<br>19 JUN 2005 | AWiFS-A |
| 274-38-A<br>05 AUG 2005 | AWiFS-A |
| 280-48-C<br>04 SEP 2005 | AWiFS-A |
| 265-41-B<br>08 AUG 2005 | AWiFS-B |
| 267-40-D<br>18 AUG 2005 | AWiFS-B |
| 275-44-D<br>03 SEP 2005 | AWiFS-B |

# Methods

# Check Point Error

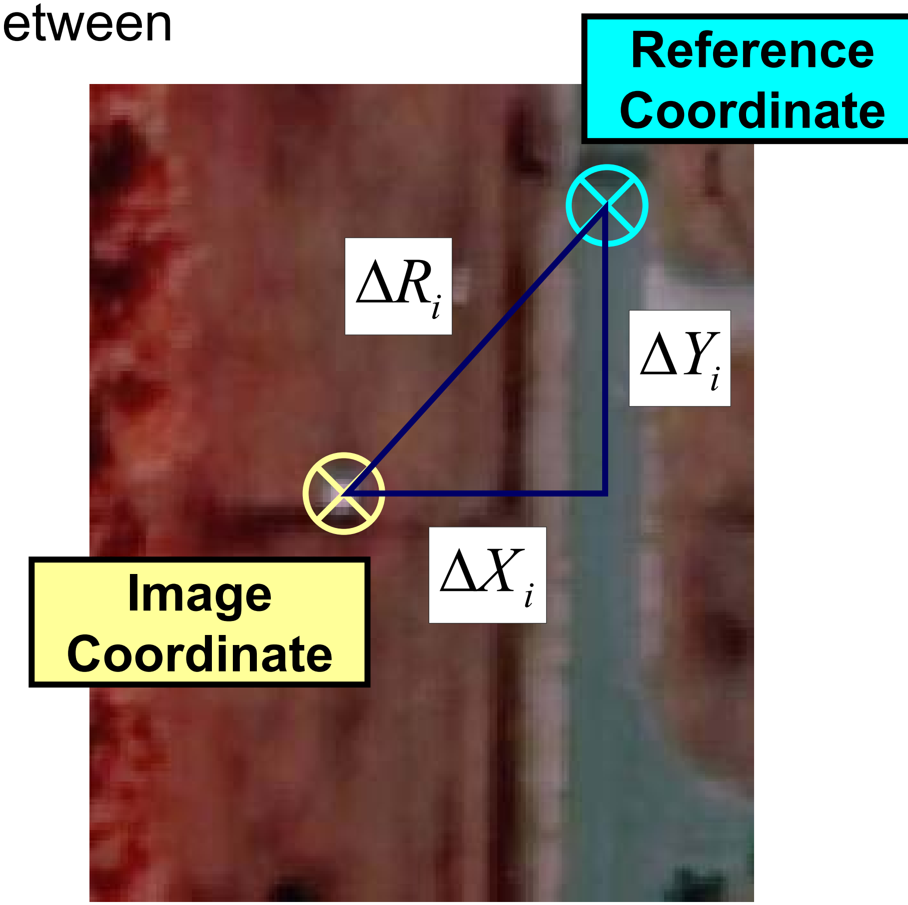
- Check Point Error – differences between image and reference coordinates

$$\Delta X_i = X_{image,i} - X_{reference,i}$$

$$\Delta Y_i = Y_{image,i} - Y_{reference,i}$$

- Check point error radial magnitude calculated by

$$\Delta R_i = \sqrt{\Delta X_i^{\,2} + \Delta Y_i^{\,2}}$$



# Sources of Error

- Assessment Error
  - Ground Control Error
    - Pointing
    - Measurement
  - Analyst Error
    - Pointing
- Product Error (potential)
  - Spatial Resolution
  - Pointing (Displacement)
  - Azimuth
  - Scale
  - Orthogonality
  - Other product distortion
  - Terrain effects

- *"Pointing error" for surveyors & analysts refers to the errors these individuals have in picking their target.*

- **random error**

- *"Measurement error" for ground control refers to the error inherent in the measuring instrument or system (GPS in this case).*

- **constant systematic error**

- *"Pointing error" for a geo-imaging system refers to the constant separation between estimated target coordinates and actual target coordinates.*

- **functional systematic error**

# Error Model: Primary Components

- The error model chosen for generalized assessment

$$X_{image} = X + \varepsilon \quad \text{where} \quad \varepsilon = \varepsilon_{constant} + \varepsilon_{zero-mean}$$

- Horizontal Bias – an estimate of the constant error, designated here as $\mu_H$, is the magnitude of the vector sum of the average error in the $X$ and the $Y$

$$\mu_H = \sqrt{\left(\overline{\Delta X}\right)^2 + \left(\overline{\Delta Y}\right)^2}$$

- Circular Standard Error – an estimate of the zero-mean circular equivalent error valid even for elliptical error distributions with minimum to maximum error ratios as low as 0.6

$$\sigma_C \cong \frac{\sigma_{\Delta X} + \sigma_{\Delta Y}}{2} \quad \text{where} \quad \sigma_{\Delta X} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum\left(\Delta X_i - \overline{\Delta X}\right)^2}{n-1}} \quad \& \quad \sigma_{\Delta Y} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum\left(\Delta Y_i - \overline{\Delta Y}\right)^2}{n-1}}$$

- *Tom Ager used the horizontal error defined on the right, but Greenwalt and Shultz found this to be invalid for minimum to maximum error ratios less than 0.8.*

$$\sigma_H = \sqrt{\frac{\left(\sigma_{\Delta X}{}^2 + \sigma_{\Delta Y}{}^2\right)}{2}}$$

# Error Model: Zero-Mean Components

- The zero-mean error model

$$\varepsilon_{zero-mean} = \varepsilon_{along\text{-}track}(u) + \varepsilon_{across-track}(u) + \varepsilon_{non-systematic}$$

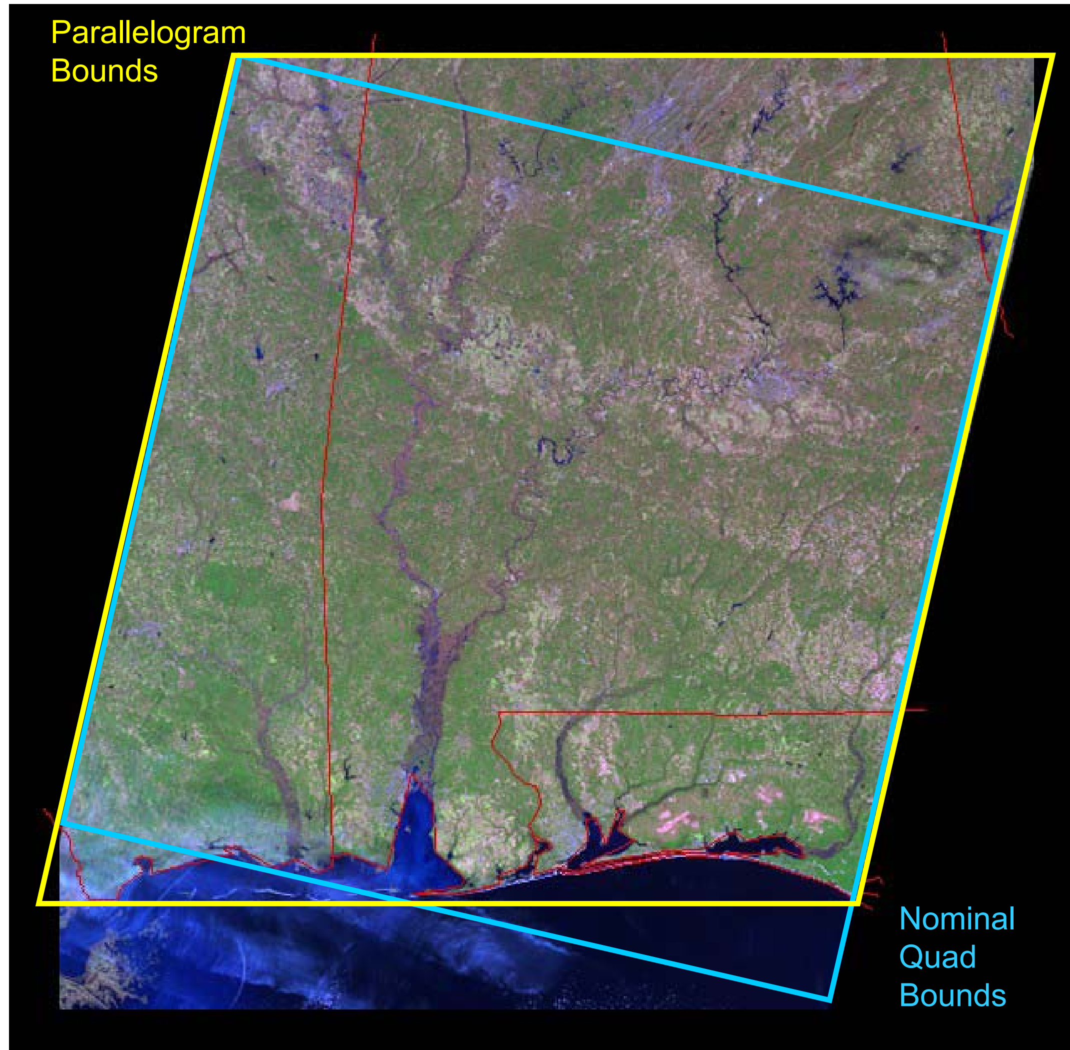
Where $u$ is the across-track position

- *It is important to examine the zero-mean error more closely in the case of AWiFS because the error distribution clearly departs from a simple circular error distribution with a horizontal bias.*
- *The along- and across-track errors, while functionally more complex than horizontal bias, are still systematic errors that are largely correctable.*
- *The non-systematic error represents random error and harder-to-model errors, such as terrain distortion. This error is the most difficult (costliest) to correct.*

# Defining Area of Analysis

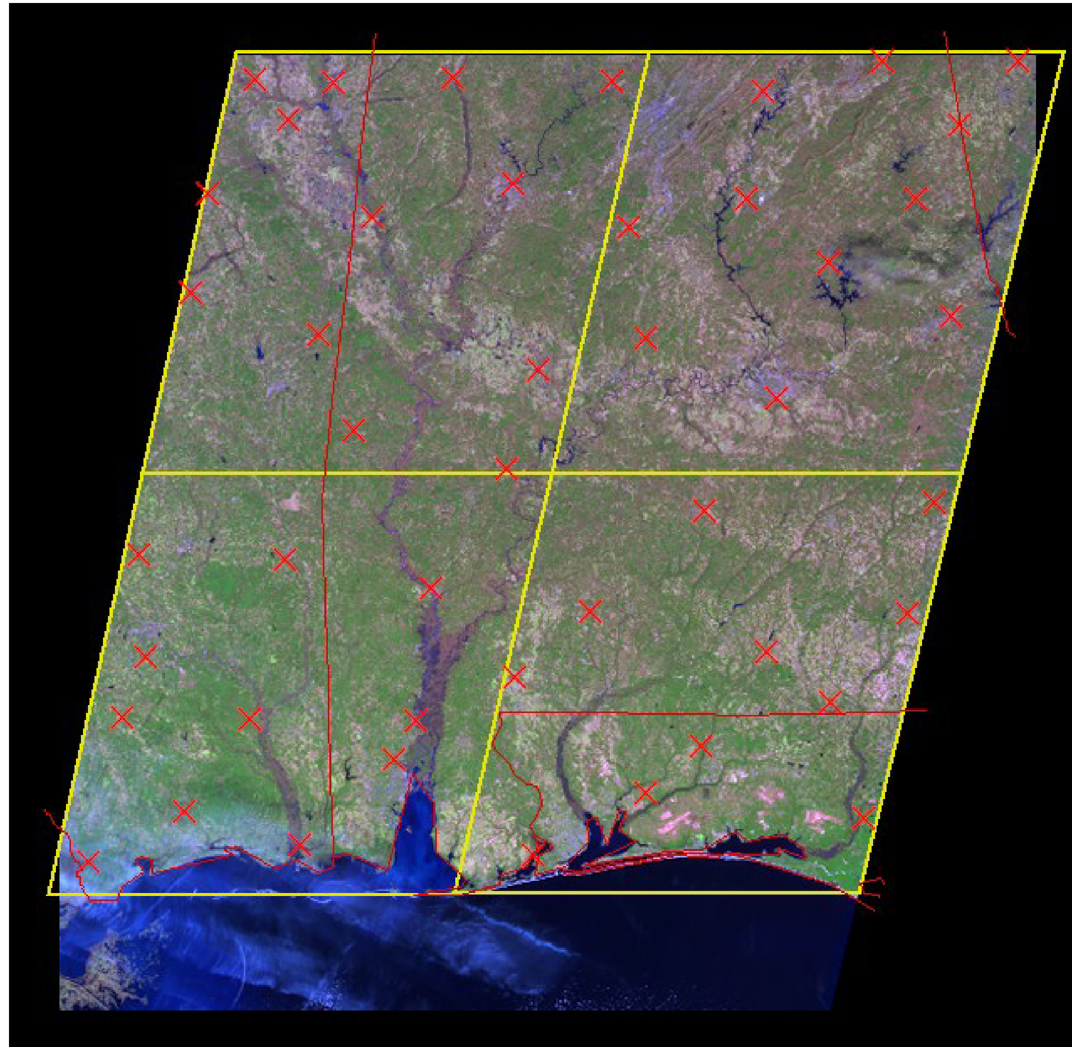
- Area of analysis defined as the “parallelogram”* with the largest area useful for analysis rather than the nominal AWiFS quad boundaries

* East and west bounds are not perfectly parallel.



# Methods: Selecting & Distributing Check Points

- Area of analysis divided into quadrants; check points selected in each
  - Selected 45 to 50 points (NSSDA minimum = 20)
  - At least 20% in each quadrant
  - *Did not strictly maintain point separation of 10% of diagonal*



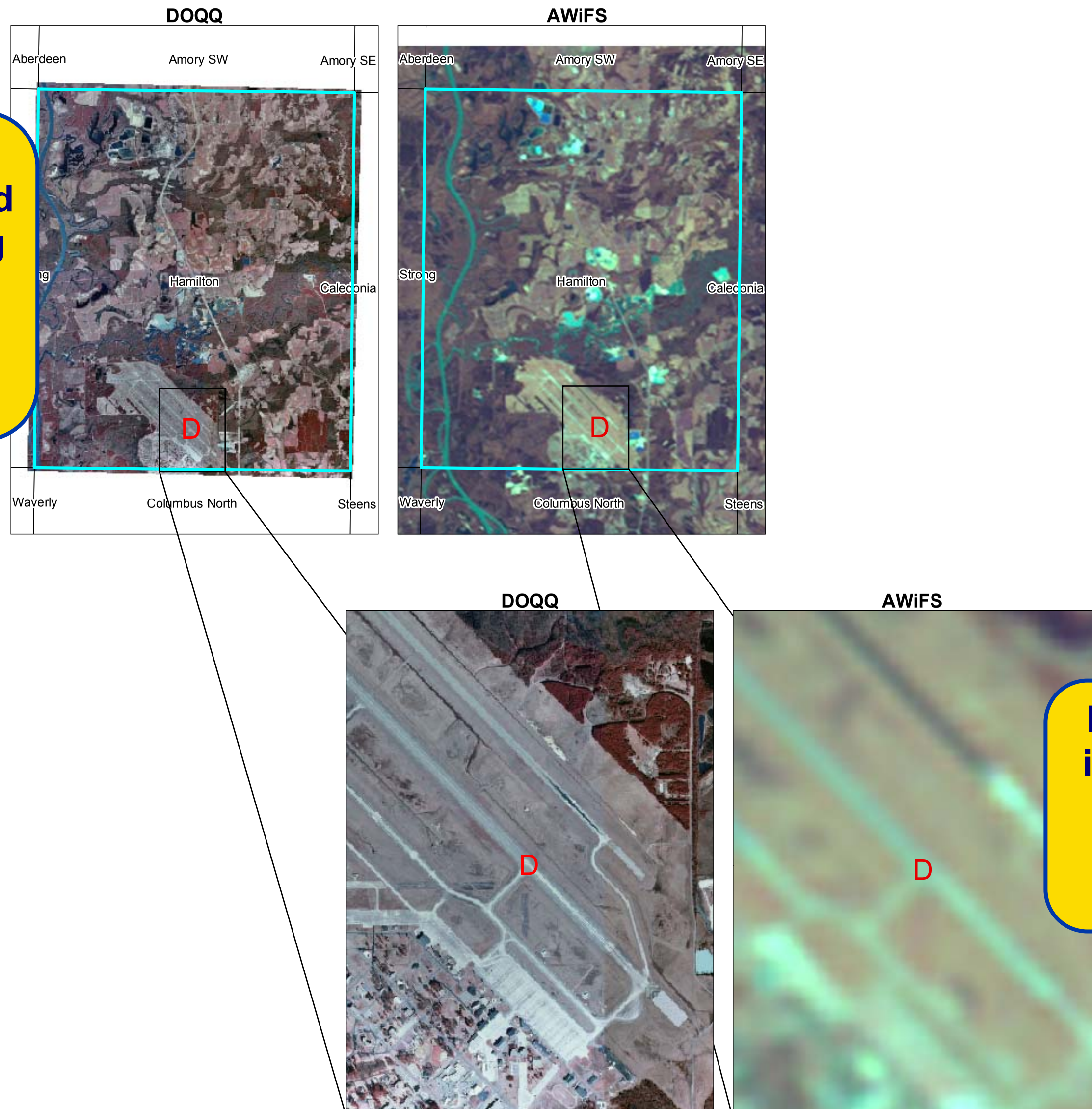
# Data Collection Notes

- Tentative check points were collected in ArcMap using heads-up digitizing to a point shapefile overlaying the AWiFS source image.
- All check-point data were collected in AWiFS scene-specific Lambert Conformal Conic projection.
- Reference images (typically DOQQs) were identified and added to the ArcMap project. On-the-fly reprojections by ArcMap were found to be sufficient.
- Reference images were searched for tentative check points identified in the AWiFS source image. If a tentative point was missing or indistinct in the reference image, both images were searched for an alternative. No more than 1 check point was used per reference image.

# Example AWiFS Check Point

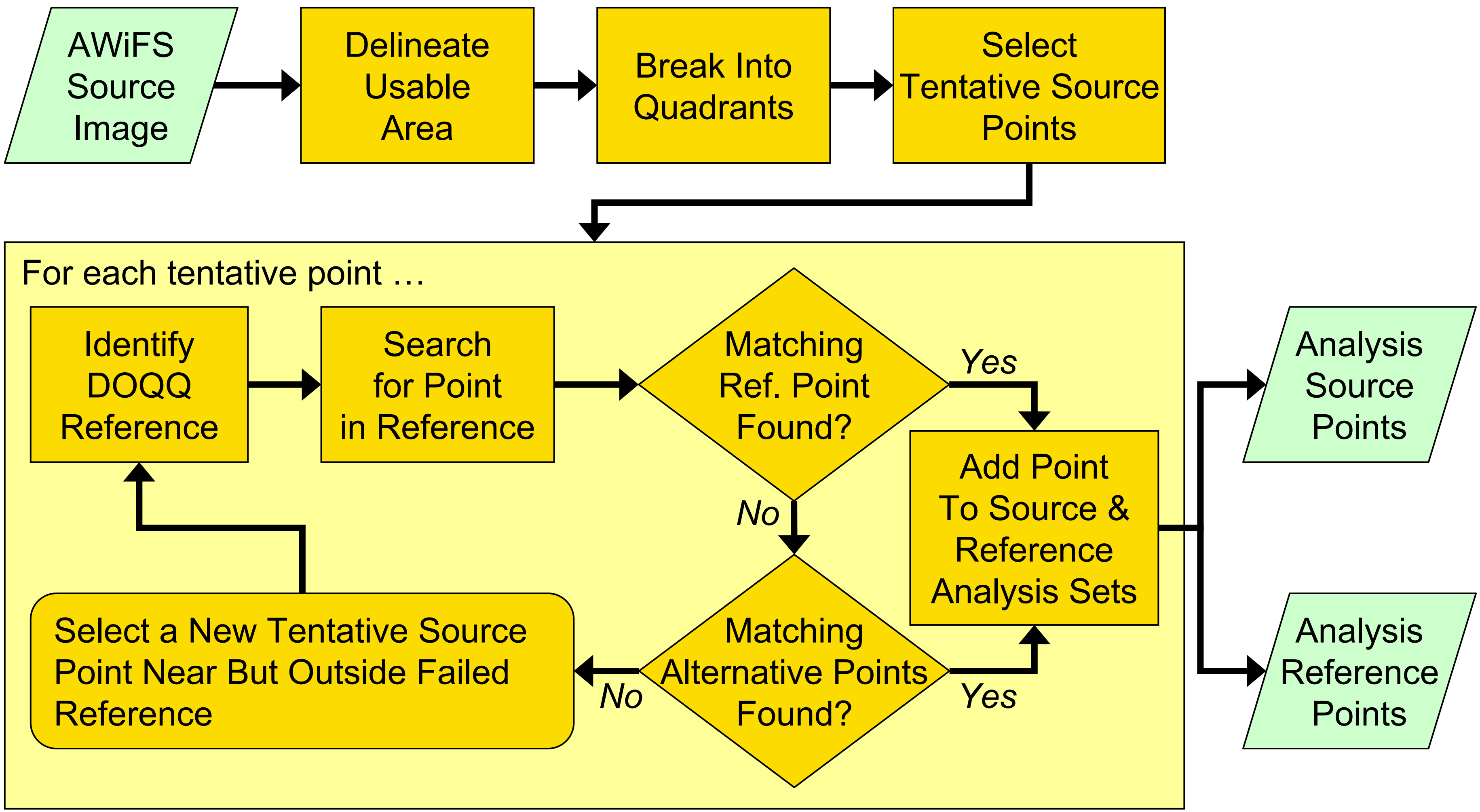
Obtained Digital Ortho Quarter-Quad (DOQQ) containing point

(DOQQ $CE_{90}$ assumed 7-10 m)




Extracted AWiFS image coordinate and DOQQ reference coordinate

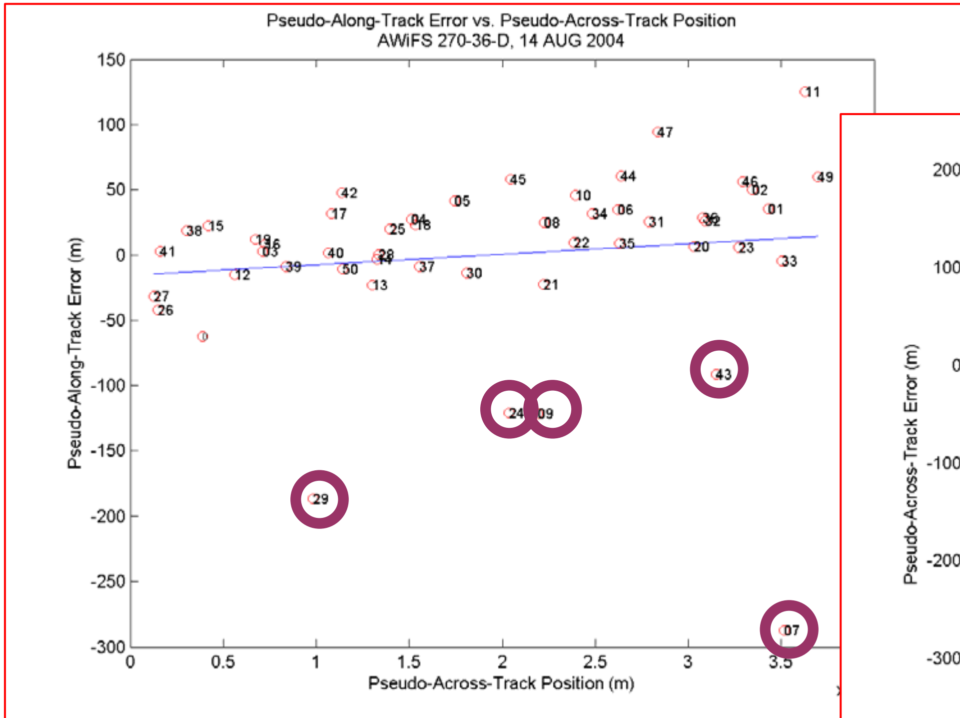
# Check Point Collection Flow

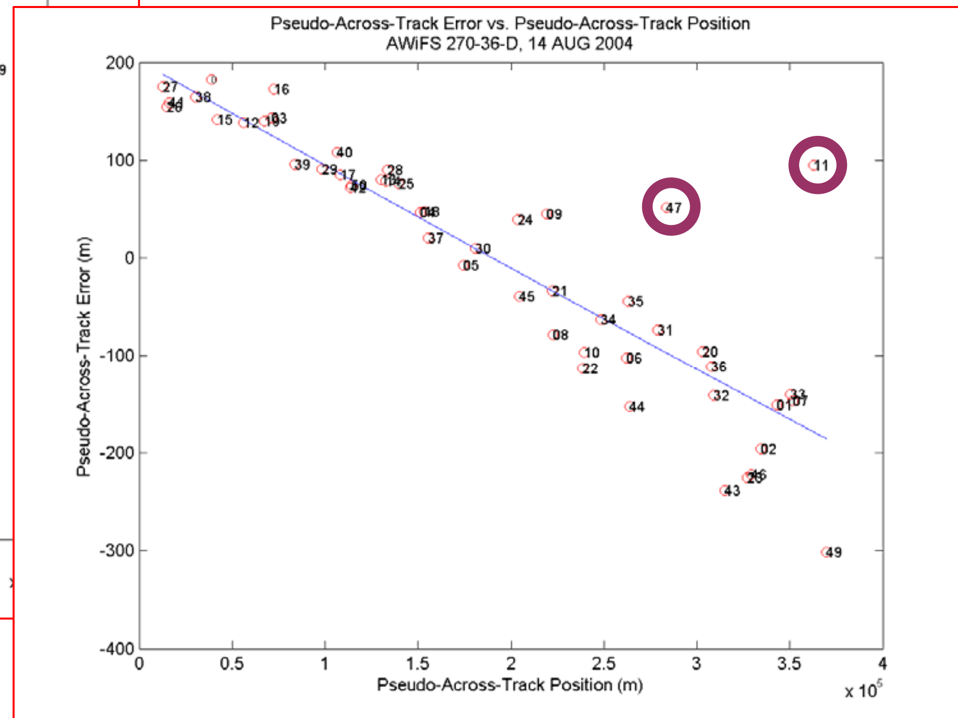


# Check Point Blunder Detection

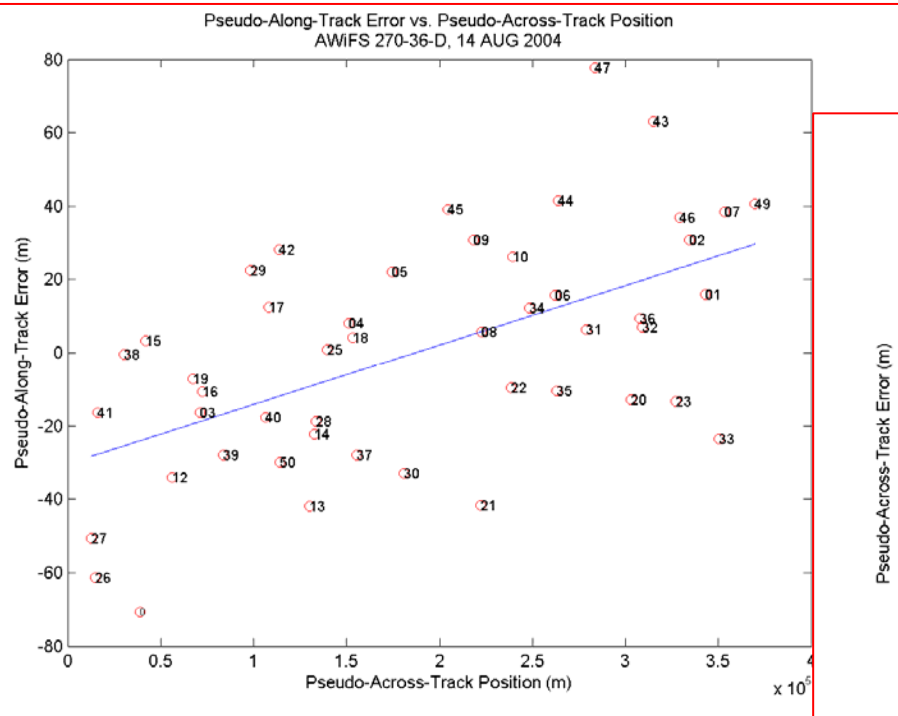
- Transform the frame of reference for the check points from the AWiFS image projection to a quasi-satellite-path frame (approximate along-track position: positive Y; approximate across-track position: positive X).
  - Shift frame origin to minimum X, minimum Y of analysis area.
  - Rotate frame so that satellite-path direction (approximated by average azimuth of east and west bounds of analysis area) is up.
- Compute residuals from difference in source and reference coordinates of check points.
- Compute zero-mean residuals by subtracting overall means from residuals.
- Plot both components of zero-mean residuals vs. across-track check point positions.
  - Along-track zero-mean residuals vs. across-track position
  - Across-track zero-mean residuals vs. across-track position
- Observe the plots to determine if there is a systematic relationship between position and error.
- If there is a systematic relationship, determine if some of the check points depart from a clear trend (this is a somewhat subjective choice).
- Re-submit any out-of-step points to be re-evaluated as check points.
- Repeat check point blunder detection.

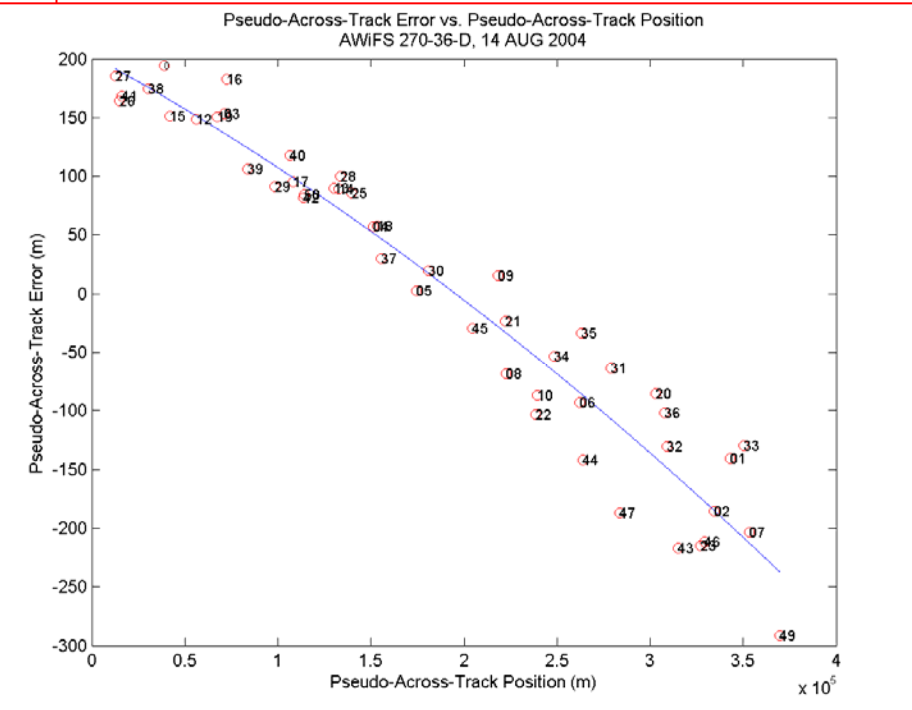
# Before Blunder Detection



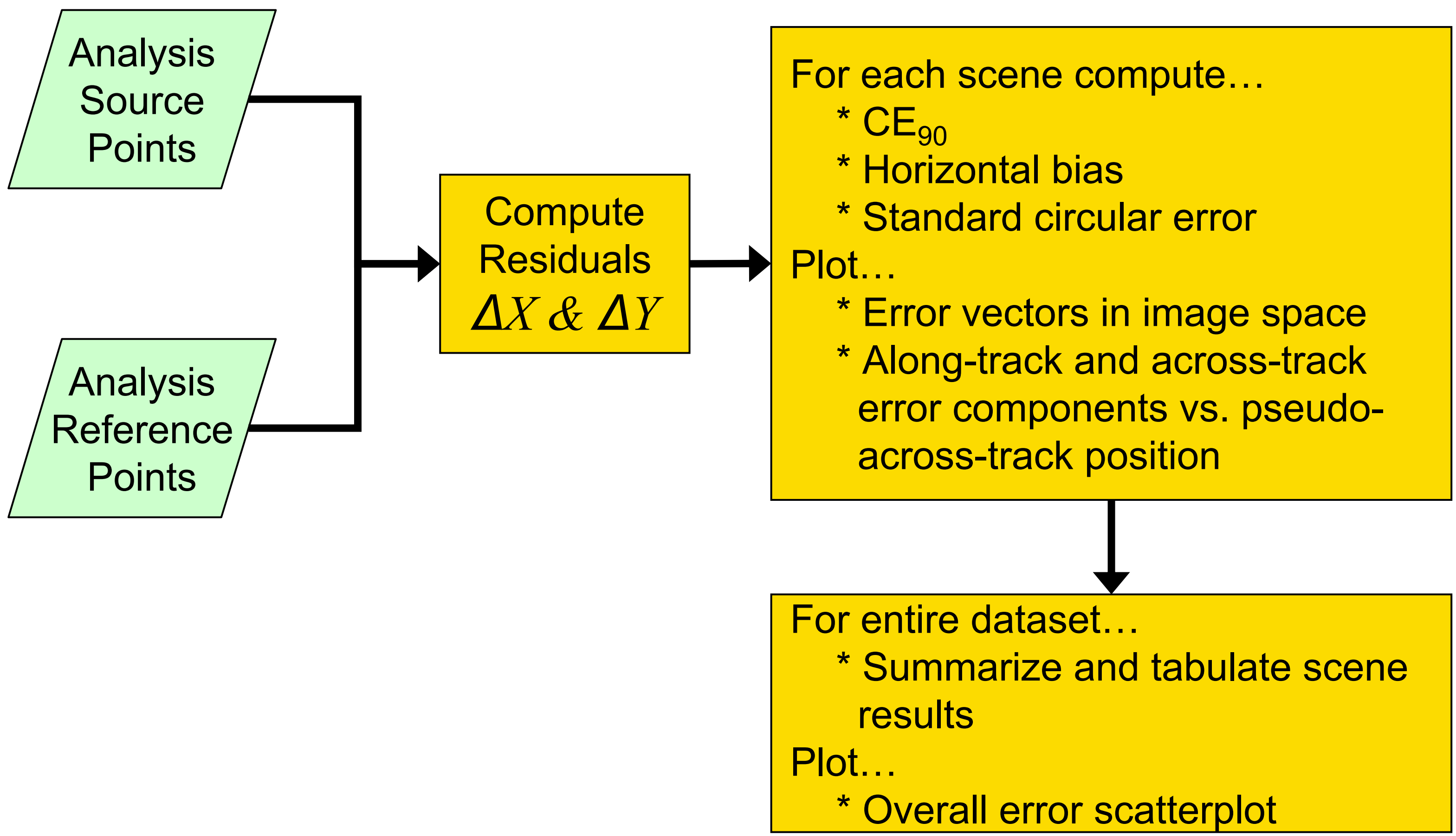



# After Blunder Detection



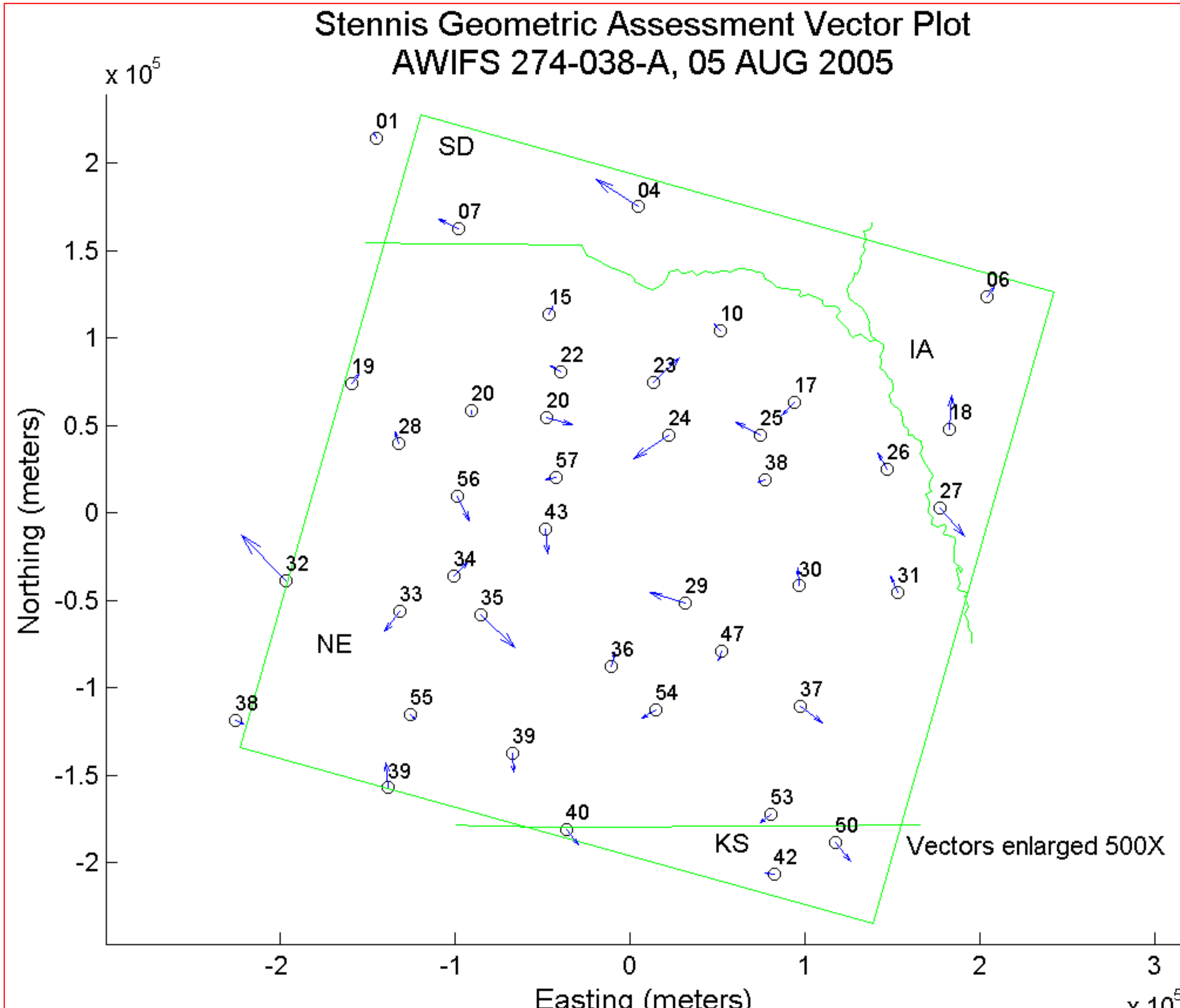



# Analyses Flow

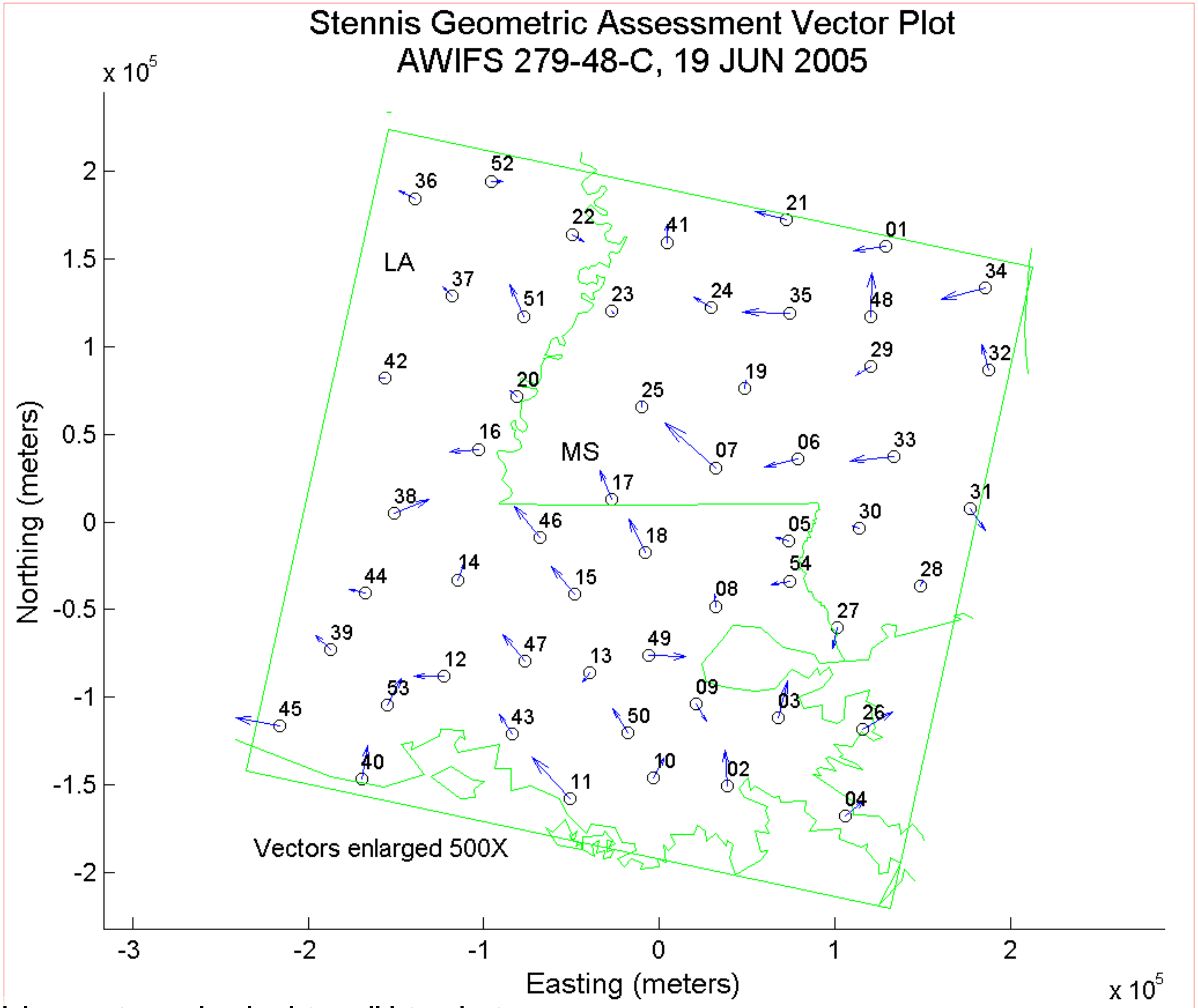


# Results

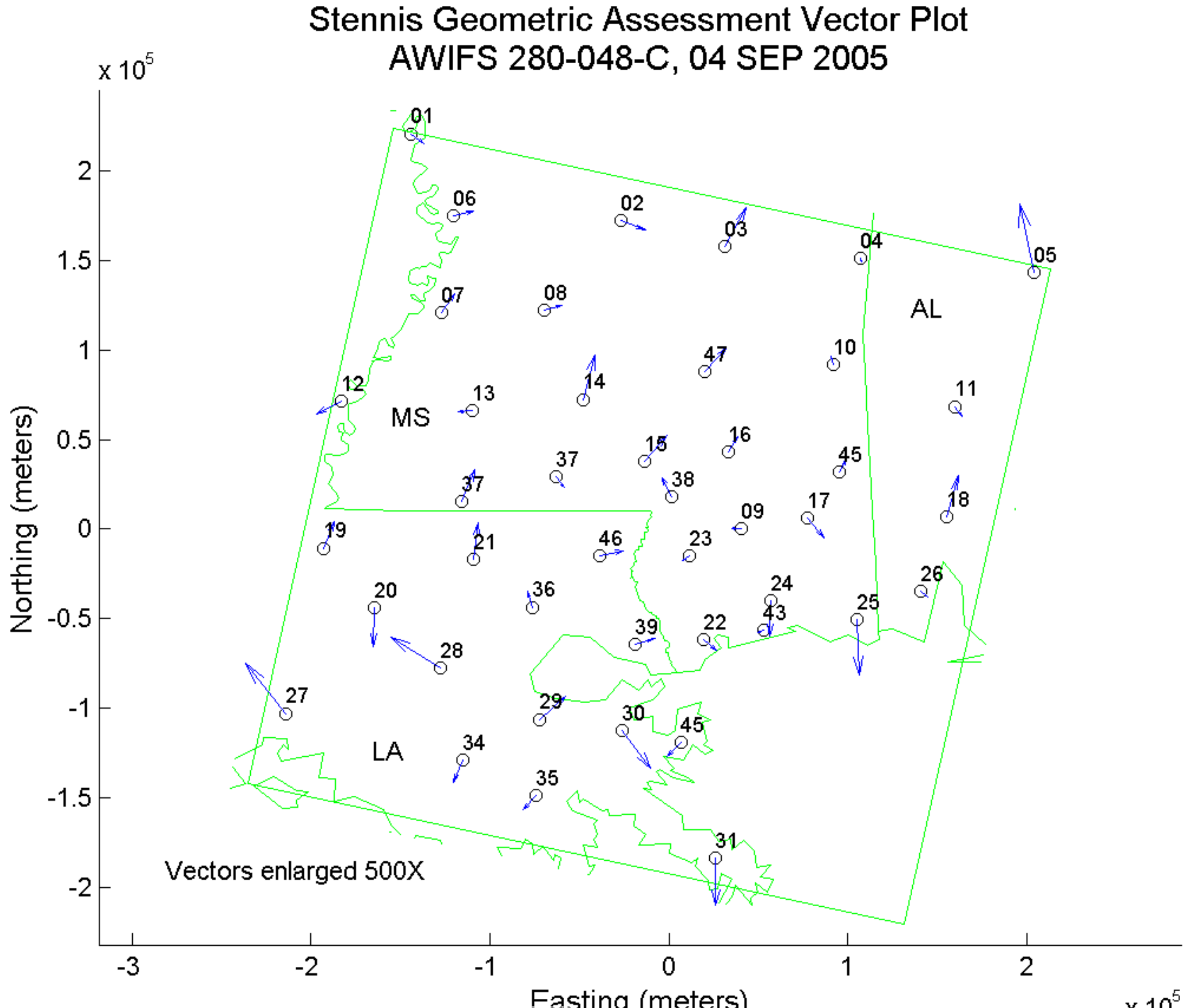
# Scene Results: AWiFS A(1)



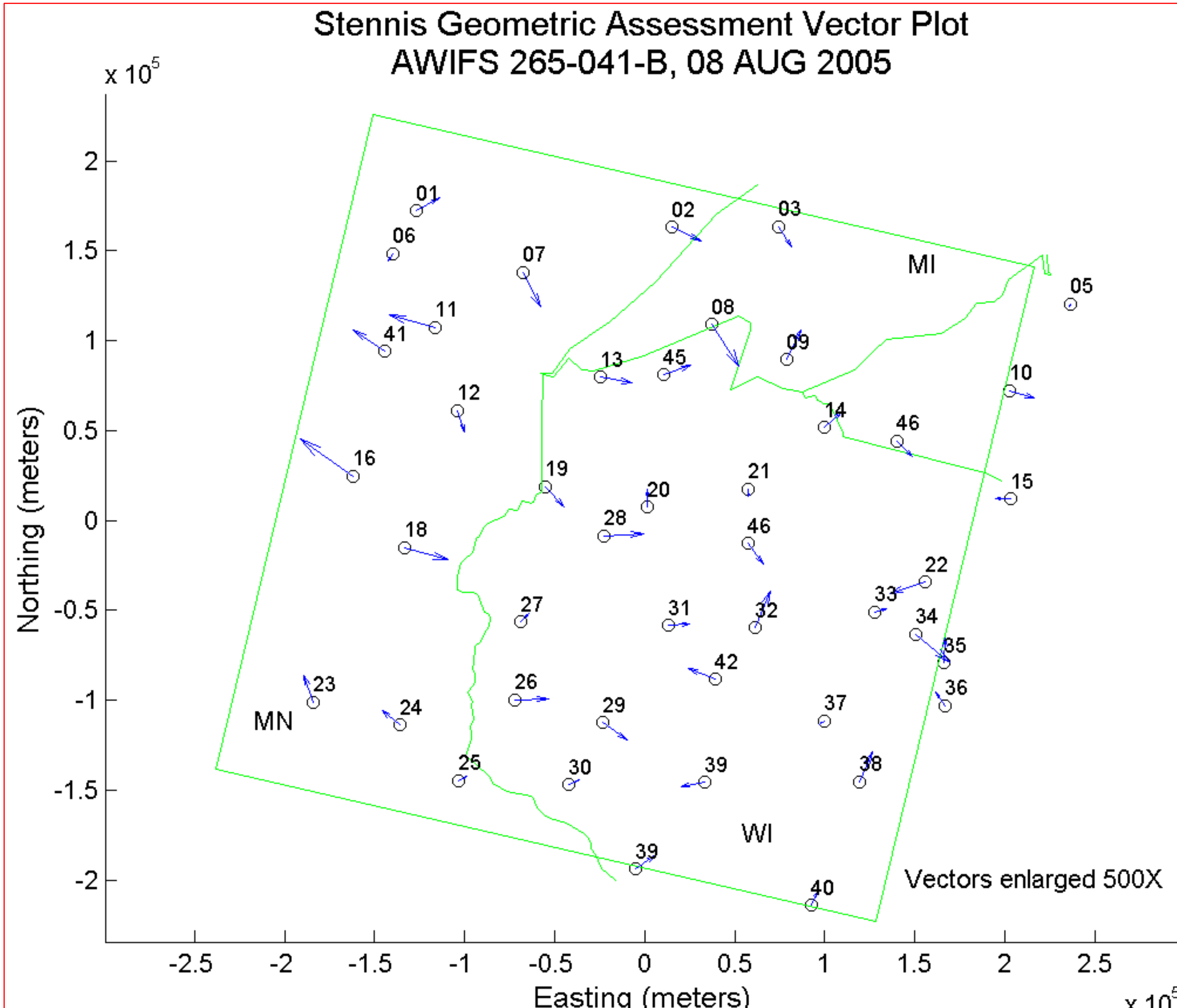
# Scene Results: AWiFS A(2)



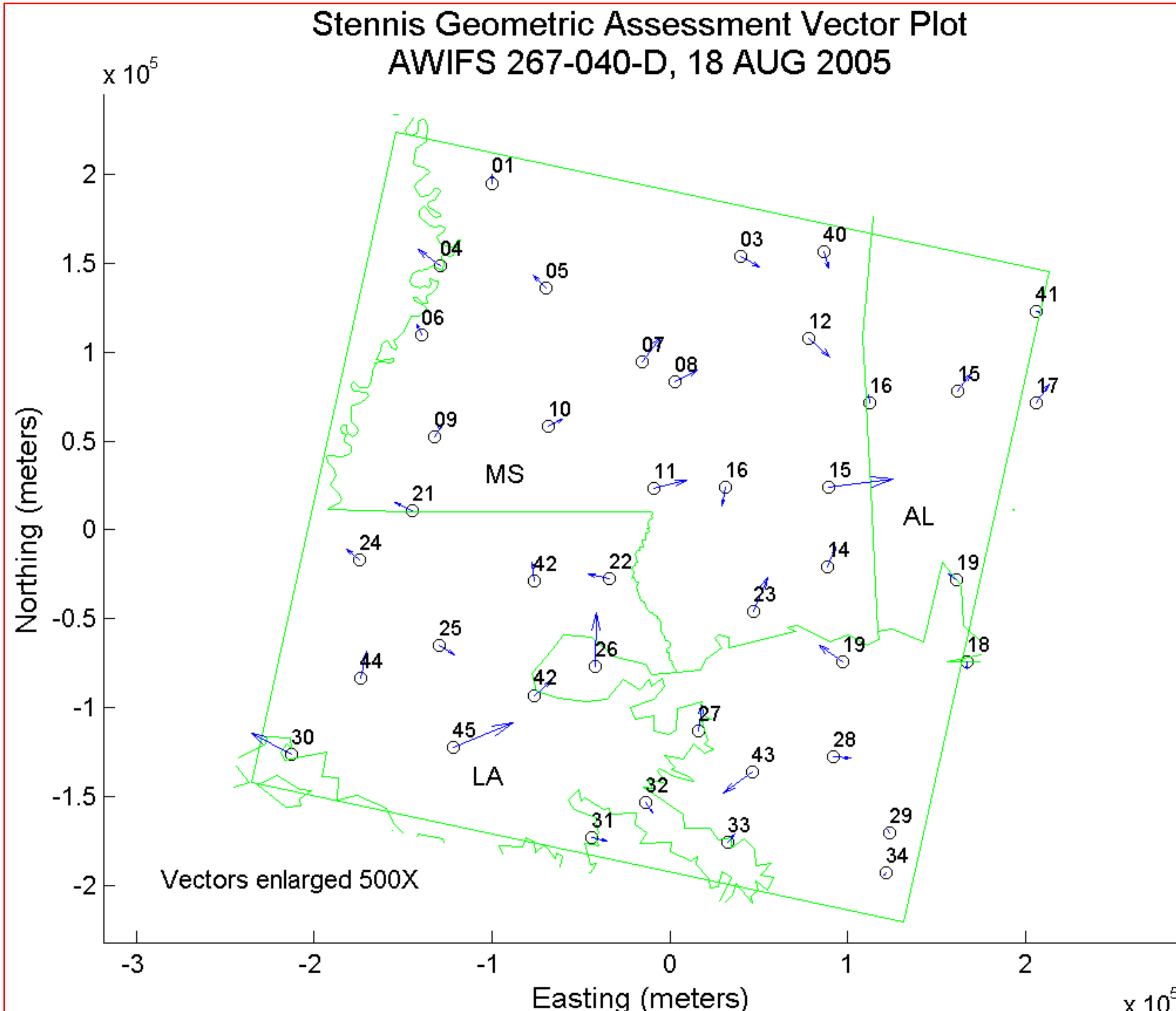
# Scene Results: AWiFS A(3)



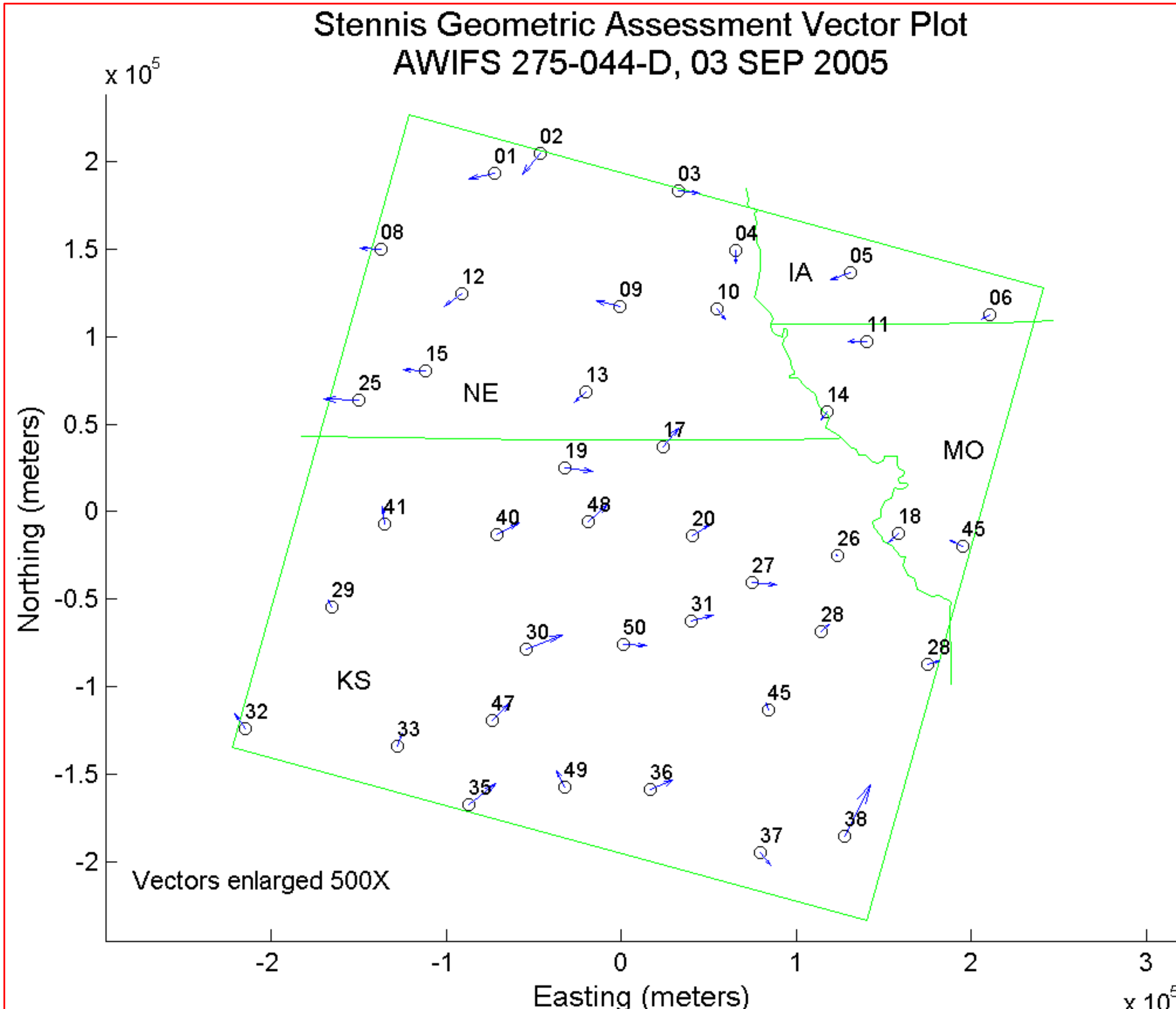
# Scene Results: AWiFS B(1)



# Scene Results: AWiFS B(2)

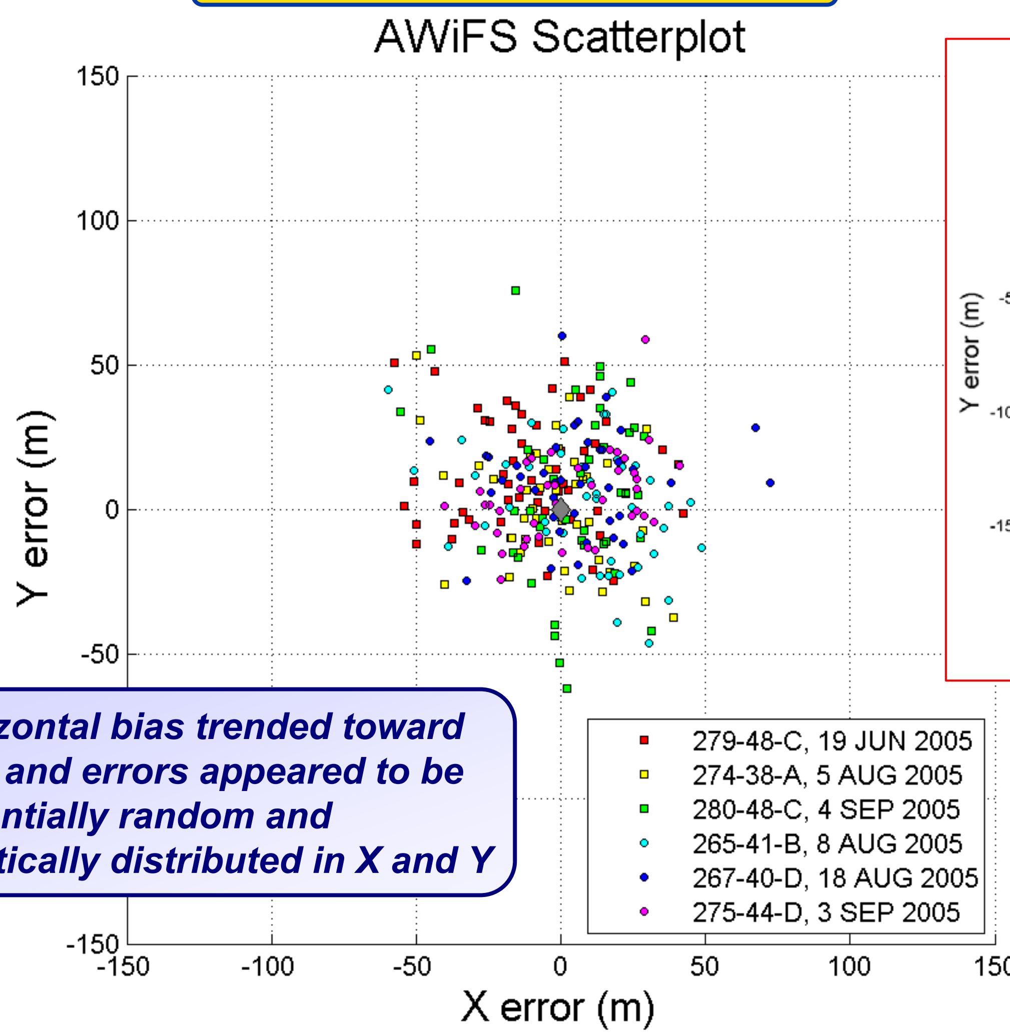


# Scene Results: AWiFS B(3)

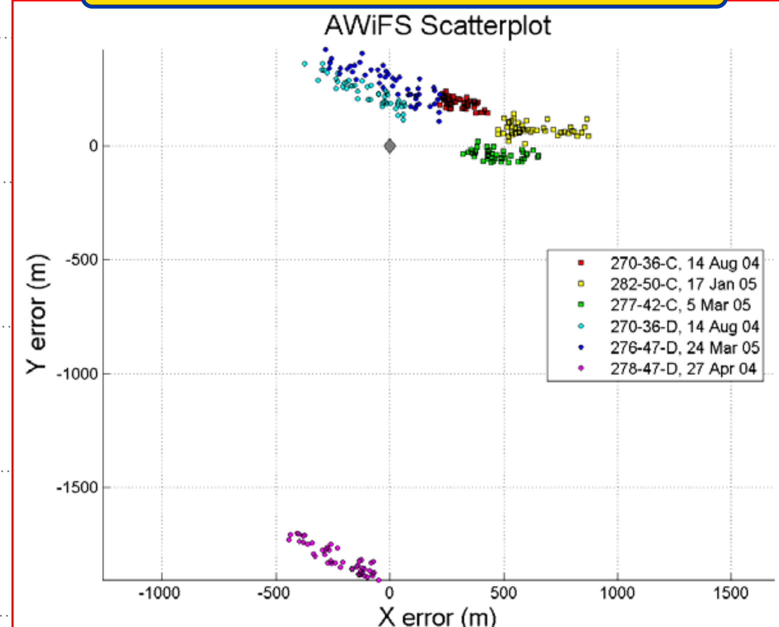


# Overall Scatter

**AWiFS Ortho (JACIE 2007)**




**AWiFS Geo (JACIE 2006)**

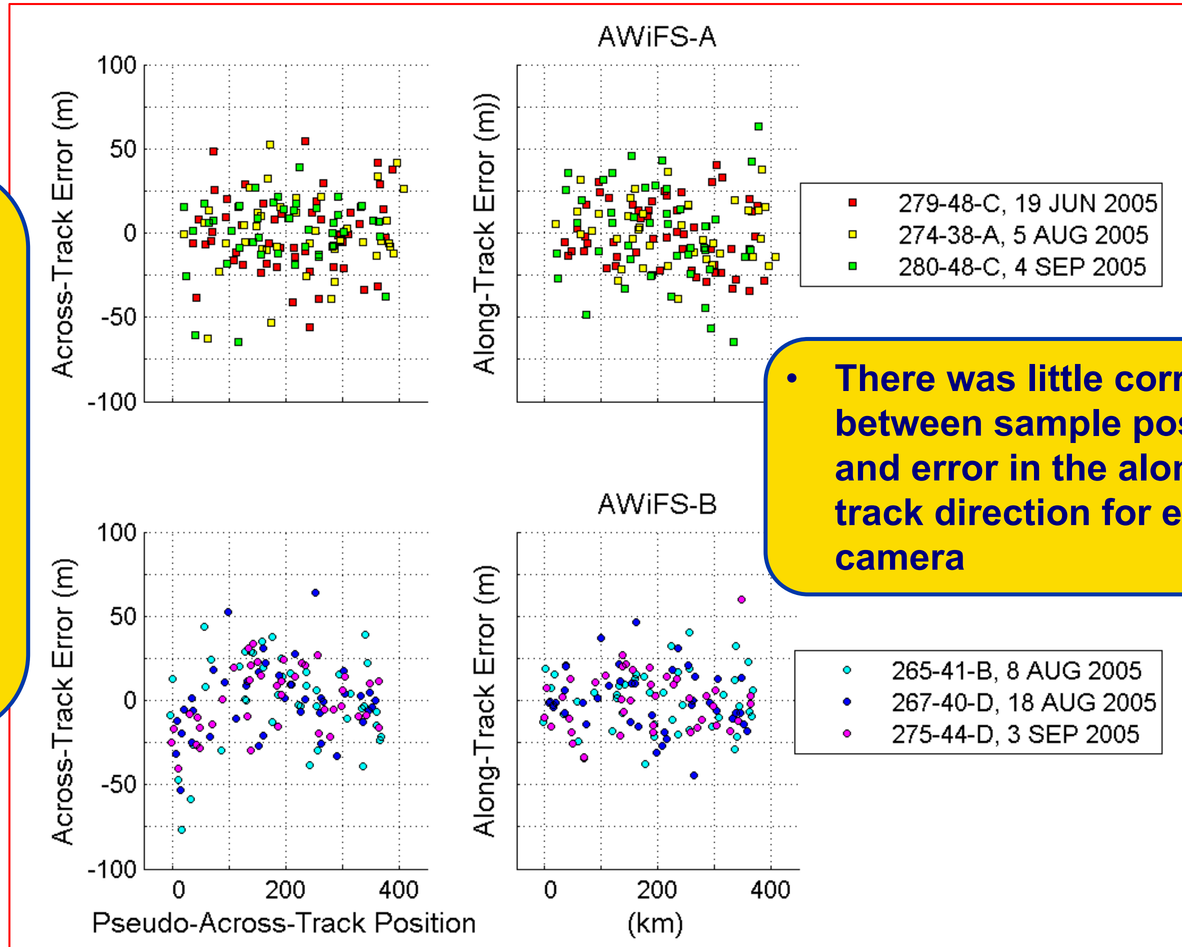



***Horizontal bias trended toward zero and errors appeared to be essentially random and identically distributed in X and Y***

***Contrasted with the AWiFS Geo product (characterized for JACIE 2006), which showed biases greater than 200 m and greater spread of errors in the across-track (X) direction***

# Zero-Mean Errors by Sample

- In general, there was little correlation between sample position and error in across-track direction
- Western edge of B Camera scenes may show a slight westward error trend (up to ~half pixel)




- There was little correlation between sample position and error in the along-track direction for either camera

# Summary of Results

| AWiFS Product | Acquisition Date | Sub-scene | Horizontal Bias (m) | Circular Std. Error (m) | Empirical $CE_{90}$ (m) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AWiFS-A *Ortho* | 19 JUN 2005 | 279-48-A | 16 | 21 | 51 |
| | 5 AUG 2005 | 274-38-A | 3 | 21 | 45 |
| | 4 SEP 2005 | 280-48-C | 6 | 25 | 55 |
| AWiFS-B *Ortho* | 8 AUG 2005 | 265-41-B | 8 | 23 | 49 |
| | 18 AUG 2005 | 267-40-D | 11 | 20 | 46 |
| | 3 SEP2005 | 275-44-D | 5 | 18 | 36 |

- The mean $CE_{90}$ of AWiFS *Geo* images characterized was 47 m and ranged from 36 m to 55 m
- All scenes showed consistent sub-pixel geopositional accuracy

***References***

*Ager, T.P., 2004. An Analysis of Metric Accuracy Definitions and Methods of Computation, an internal report of InnoVision in support of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. 13 pp.*

*Federal Geographic Data Committee, Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standards Part 3: National Standard for Spatial Data Accuracy (FGDC-STD-007.3-1998, 1998).*

*Greenwalt, C.R. and M.E. Shultz, 1962. Principles of Error Theory and Cartographic Applications (ACIC Technical Report No. 96, 1962).*

*Participation in this work by Science Systems and Applications, Inc., and by Computer Sciences Corporation was supported by NASA at the John C. Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, under Task Order NNS04AB54T.*